Chihaya

POÈME 51

Manicure Set

FRR

FRR

IRRR

IRRR

IRRR

IRRR

HMPH

Nami

Wait, hold up--is that really him?? This guy is a total hottie!! Can you really land a bombshell like that?! Good luck~ you're gonna need it.. x_x

TIC

Oh, it's not like that at all~! I've already found my next candidate ♫ He's a 2nd year and he's ultra-gorgeous~ Not only are his looks great but he's even smart too: brightest student in his year!o I signed up for the same club as him, so it's just a matter of time before we start going out! Wanna see a pic? I secretly snapped one~ I'm attaching it to this email♥♥

TIC

TIC TIC TIC

Nami 11/04/201x

Sumire!! I just heard! You and Kazuki really broke up?! Oh no, even though it's springtime, you're going to be lonely...

!

YOU JUST DON'T GET IT, DO YOU, NAMI ...?

PFFT

I read this so many times!!

Hold Me Closer Song

kindness and sincerity are my weapons!

WILL ALWAYS BE THE HEROINE IN SHOUJO MANGA!

NORMALLY, A TYPE LIKE ME, WHO IS CUTE (BUT NOT TOO CUTE) ...

THAT BEAUTY SEEMS TO BE A FORMIDABLE ENEMY... I MUST OVERCOME THIS RIVAL!

"ALL WE NEED TO COMPETE IN HIGH SCHOOL CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT IS THE FIVE OF US"

"WON'T WE BE THE ONES DOING THE WINNING ?"

.....

ムゴッホ

ムゴッホ

WELL THEN

.

.

.

.

.

STARTING FROM PAGE 12

....

OF AKUTAGAWA RYUUNOSUKE'S "RASHOMON"

.....

NATIONAL SCIENCE YEAR 2 CLASS 9
SENIOR INSTRUCTOR
FUKASAKU TOKIJI

ONE DAY WHILE TRAVELING AROUND THE COUNTRYSIDE, HE TOLD HIS YOUNG SON A CERTAIN SAYING

.....

カ"

カ"

カ"

カ"

HM.. SPEAKING OF AKUTAGAWA RYUUNOSUKE, I HAVE A GOOD STORY

.....

there aren't even two months left until the interhigh qualifiers

there's no way you could make them strong enough by then

if you want to train them after that knock yourself out

if we neglect them for two whole months, by then there won't be a single one left!

"YOU MUST NOT STEP ON MY BOOKS"

that was it?!

TOC

among the first years there could be children who will begin to love karuta and become strong as well don't you think?!

ARGH

and? if that has to happen isn't it fine that way as well

HE REALLY JUST DOESN'T CARE ABOUT OUR CLUB ITSELF ....

IT'S DIFFERENT ...

TO SAY SUCH A THING ...

CLASS 2-1

NATIONAL SCIENCE
YEAR 2 CLASS 1
SENIOR INSTRUCTOR
MIYAUCHI TAEKO

IN ADDITION, PLEASE PURCHASE A COPY OF KOWASHA'S WORKBOOK OF EXAM PRACTICE EXERCISES.

BEFORE EACH LESSON, THERE WILL BE A SHORT QUIZ.

FOR YOU SECOND YEARS, THE COUNTDOWN TO EXAM SEASON HAS ALREADY BEGUN.

also in the same class

IF YOU WANT TO MAKE IT INTO THE SCHOOL OF YOUR CHOICE, YOU ABSOLUTELY CANNOT NEGLECT YOUR PREPARATION ...

I'LL TEACH THEM!

CHIHAYA ...

THAT GIRL... DOES SHE NOT UNDERSTAND

HOW PRECIOUS HER TIME IS RIGHT NOW?

STUBBORNLY WANTING TO DO WHATEVER IDEA SHE GETS INTO HER HEAD... IN SPITE OF EVERYTHING SHE SAID BEFORE...

IT'S NO USE... IF I DON'T STOP HER...

THEN ...

WASN'T YOUR DREAM TO BECOME QUEEN?

IF I DON'T MEMORIZE MORE PERFECTLY ...

I CAN'T COME OUT ...

DIRECT ...

AND YET I KNOW THAT IF YOU LOSE YOU'LL STILL CRY

I'LL GIVE YOU HALF OF MINE.

THAT'S NOT ENOUGH ..!

I JUST WANT TO GO BUY A MELON BREAD ....

BUT I ATE MY LUNCH IN CLASS ALREADY !

wait for me..!

MEAT-BUN -KUN, WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

YOU KNOW WE SAID WE'RE HAVING A MEETING DURING LUNCH !

SFX: DOOR OPENING

ROLL

OH !

KANA-CHAN GOT HERE EARLY |

AH

IT'S JUST THAT CLASS 5 IS THE CLOSEST TO THE CLUB ROOM...

OH, EVERYONE'S ALREADY HERE...

WHY DOES CLASS 1 HAVE TO BE SO FAR AWAY...

PRIVATE LITERATURE YEAR 2 CLASS 5

NOW, THEN ...

THE PURPOSE OF THIS MEETING IS TO DISCUSS WHAT SHOULD BE DONE WITH THE FIRST YEARS.

FIRST OF ALL, I DON'T THINK THIS CLUB ROOM CAN HANDLE BRINGING IN 20 MORE PEOPLE ...

I CAN TAKE THEM!

I'LL TAKE THOSE 20 TO ANOTHER VACANT CLASSROOM AND WORK ON TEACHING THEM HOW TO PLAY!

I KNOW!

THIS AGAIN...

YOU'RE SO DESPERATE TO SPEND YOUR TIME ON SOMETHING LIKE THAT... DO YOU EVEN CARE ABOUT WINNING AGAINST WAKAMIYA SHINOBU ANYMORE?!

WHAT EXACTLY IS THE MOST IMPORTANT THING TO YOU RIGHT NOW ?!

CHIHAYA ...

...

MEIJIN/QUEEN TOURNAMENT FACTION

THE HIGH SCHOOL TOURNAMENT PRELIMS ARE IN LESS THAN SIX MONTHS !

YOU SERIOUSLY THINK WE CAN CONCENTRATE ON PRACTICE WITH TWENTY PEOPLE JABBERING AWAY IN THE BACKGROUND ?!

HIGH SCHOOL TOURNAMENT FACTION

SINCE THEY'RE PROTECTING OUR CLUB ROOM, I THINK IT WOULD BE NICE IF WE COULD MAKE THINGS REASONABLY FUN FOR THE FIRST YEARS...

ENVIRONMENT-ORIENTED FACTION

EVEN IF SOME END UP QUITTING, I HAVE TO MAKE SURE THEY'RE EDUCATED PROPERLY FROM THE BEGINNING.

I TOLD YOU, TEACHING THE FIRST YEARS WILL BE MY JOB.

TRADITION AND ETTIQUETTE FACTION

WELL, CHIHAYA?

TO ME ...

...

...IS FOR TAICHI TO MAKE IT TO RANK A !

THE MOST IMPORTANT THING TO ME RIGHT NOW...

WHAT ...?

CHIHAYA ...

FOR YOU, THAT THING ... WAS ME ?

AND MY GOAL ...

FOR THE NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM ROUND...

...IS FIRST PLACE.

!

IN THE INDIVIDUAL MATCHES, FOR EACH RANK...

FIRST PLACE.

AND ALSO TO PUT OUR BEST EFFORTS TOWARDS EDUCATING THE FIRST YEARS...

SO THAT WE ALSO WILL BECOME A VETERAN SCHOOL FOR KARUTA, JUST LIKE HOKUOU GAKUEN !

THIS GIRL...

WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU ALL ...?

WHA-

HUH ?!

CLANG

YOU OKAY?

I'VE NEVER SEEN SUCH A GREEDY HUMAN BEING IN MY LIFE!

SUCH GREED!

ﾌﾞﾙﾌﾞﾙﾌﾞﾙﾌﾞﾙ

BRRR

I...

WITHOUT EVEN HAVING A PROPER COACH, IT'S JUST TOO MUCH TO EXPECT

AT LEAST, TO BE LIKE HOKUOU

THOSE OTHER VETERAN KARUTA SCHOOLS HOW DO I SAY IT

CHIHAYA ...

...

A HUMAN BEING WITH THIS KIND OF GREED... I TRULY HAVE NEVER SEEN.

FOR MY KOUHAI, ONCE I'M ABLE TO...

...EVEN AFTER I GRADUATE, I WANT TO KEEP COMING BACK TO TEACH KARUTA.

THIS KIND OF KARUTA-LOVING HUMAN BEING...

TODAY, WE'LL BE USING THIS EMPTY CLASS-ROOM

TO STUDY THE BASICS OF KARUTA TOGETHER.

Karuta

MASHIMA-SENPAI ISN'T GOING TO TEACH US?

HUH ?

Ha Ha Ha Ha !

but how is it okay for you not to train with them Ayase -senpai ?

ARE YOU THE SPARE ?

I don't quite under-stand?

did they put you in charge of education because you aren't as good at competing ?

ONCE EVERYONE GETS THE HANG OF THE BASICS FOR KARUTA, WE CAN REJOIN THEM DURING PRACTICES.

THE OTHER SECOND YEARS ARE IN THE MIDDLE OF PREPARING FOR THE NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL CHAMPIONSHIP IN SIX MONTHS.

HEEEIN ?!

I'M THE ACE OF CRUELTY!!

GROAR

cruelty...

cruelty...?

YEAH ...

OH, STARTING ALREADY?

SO, I GUESS IT'S A RECORDED ONE TODAY ...

Karuta Club

new members welcome!

IF I DECIDED TO START ATTENDING SOME OF SHIRANAMI MEET'S WEEKLY PRACTICES, IS THAT SOMETHING YOU GUYS WOULD BE OKAY WITH?

JUST THE ONES ON TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS...

IF ....

VM

...

Canuta

瑞沢

Canuta

Canuta

BAM

BAM

WHAT ARE YOU ACTING ALL APOLOGETIC FOR? OF COURSE YOU SHOULD GO!

HARADA-SENSEI AND TSUBOGUCHI-SAN WILL BE THERE TOO! GO LEARN SOMETHING!

YOU FINALLY CAME OUT AND SAID IT!

THE MOST IMPORTANT THING TO ME RIGHT NOW ...

I FEEL LIKE...

SOMETHING ABOUT AYASE HAS CHANGED A LITTLE.

ALTHOUGH THAT PUSHY SIDE OF HERS IS STILL THE SAME...

SINCE THAT DAY WHEN I TOLD HER THAT SHE HAS TWENTY SINGLE SYLABLE CARDS...

IS FOR TAICHI TO MAKE IT, TO RANK 'A!

IT CHANGED HER ?

I'M NOT SURE HOW EXACTLY TO SAY IT ...

BUT, IT'S LIKE...

BECAUSE OF WHAT SHE SAID JUST NOW ...

BEEN ABLE TO THINK ABOUT HIS OWN MATTERS.

MASHIMA HAS FINALLY ...

GRRR

PFF...

PFF...

THAT'S...?

THERE WAS A BOY WITH US?

SO sleepy

IF MASHIMA-SENPAI ISN'T HERE, I'M JUST NOT INTO IT....

SAYING WE HAVE TO MEMORIZE ALL THAT... IT JUST FEELS LIKE I SIGNED UP FOR A CLASSIC LITERATURE COURSE...

FOR EXAMPLE, THE FIRST LINES OF POEM 74 START WITH "U KA RI KE RU" AND THE LAST LINES START WITH "HA GE SHI KA RE TO HA" SO TOGETHER ...

IT SOUNDS LIKE "UKKARI" "HAGE"*

IDEALLY, YOU'D MEMORIZE THE WHOLE POEM, BUT...

IF YOU'RE HAVING TROUBLE, THERE ARE ALTERNATE TECHNIQUES THAT ARE BASED ON MATCHING SOUNDS TOGETHER.

*"accidentally" "bald"

#9 ONO NO ACHI

	HA	(THE
	NA	FLOWER'S
	NO	BRIGHT
	I	COLOR
	RO	
	WA	
	U	
	TSU	
DETERMINING SYLLABLES:	RI	(HAS
	NI	FADED
	KE	AWAY)
HA	RI	
NA	NA	
NO		
	I	
	TA	(WHILE
WA	ZU	VAINLY
GA	RA	I
MI	NI	WATCH)
YO		
	WA	
	GA	(THE
	MI	WORLD
	YO	GROW
	NI	OLD
	FU	WITH
	RU	ME)
	NA	(AS
	GA	I
	ME	GAZE
	SE	OUT
	SHI	AT THE
	MA	LONG
	NI	RAIN

PLIC PLIC PLIC

?!

FRSH FRSH FRSH

SU-SUMIRE-CHAN! ARE YOU OKAY? WHAT HAPPENED?!

DID YOU SEE A GHOST? OR, A SPIDER?!

the poem.

Determining Syllables:
hanano / wagamiyo

Meaning:
The color of the cherry blossoms was beautiful, but now it is vainly fading away to nothing.
She realizes that, while spending her life passing the time without purpose, before she knew it, her worldly body--her face and her figure--had also faded away along with the world around her.

REALLY ...

IT'S JUST LIKE THAT... I WONDER.. WHAT I THOUGHT I WAS TRYING TO DO...

YOUTH ... Carnal BEAUTY ...

ALL AT ONCE FADE AWAY TO NOTHING ...

THEN... MY LIFE... WHAT ELSE AM I LIVING FOR...

BUT LOVE ?!

she had to leave...

HOW DELICATE!

PLEASE ALLOW ME TO GO HOME FOR TODAY!

WHA-?

SENPAI, I'M SORRY...

I'M JUST TOO SAD...

SFX: DOOR SLAMMING

BAAAM

which one? let me see!

reading it made my heart squeeze a little~

oh. I really like this poem too!

My favorite is "how little you know of the burning jolt I feel- as moxa grass that's etched by fire and drawn to skin"

51

I already have it memorized!

but why?

BECAUSE OF THE MAIDENS!

AS FOR ME, I LIKE THE ONE THAT STARTS: ***"heavenly wind the clouds' commute please, stop your blowing -"***

12

ah, I like it! sounds romantic~

"for you, I walk the fields of spring, and pick the youthful herbs."

15

I CAN SEE... THEY REALLY ARE "SONGS"

NOT JUST A "GAME" ...

WAS THE "SONG"

WHAT FIRST TOUCHED THEIR HEARTS ...

FOR ME, KARUTA IS ALL ABOUT "MEANING."

KANA -CHAN ...

THERE HE IS !!

Mashima -senpai !

HAA

HAA

HAA

HAA

kyaaa~ HE CALLED ME "SUMIRE -CHAN"~ ♡♡♡

it's Hanano !

...WHAT'S YOUR LAST NAME ?

UH ...

IT'S... SUMIRE -CHAN, RIGHT?

what a coincidence! ♡

I had a headache so I was sent home from club early

HUH ?

YOU ...

of course! ♡

ARE YOU GOING TO KEEP DOING KARUTA CLUB WITH US ?

TATAM

TATAM

just 'Sumire' would be the best~

WELL, THEN, HANANO-SAN...

TATAM

BUT ISN'T THIS GREAT ?!

IS IT A SIGN? FORTUNE IS ON MY SIDE ?!

WE TAKE THE SAME TRAIN TO GET HOME?! HOW ABSURDLY LUCKY...

BOBOM

すゆ

EVEN YOUR VOICE IS TOO GOOD ...!

AHH, MASHIMA SENPAI !!

IS THAT SO ...

I'M GLAD ...

DOING THIS....

so even when it's less crowded. I like to stand!

I think there are people who need that seat more than I

IF I CAN PLAY THE KIND AND GENTLE GIRL ...

WON'T I LOOK GOOD HERE ?

IT'S FINE GO AHEAD AND SIT

TATAM

PSST PSST

YOU NEED TO TOO HARANO-SAN

SINCE YOUR HEAD HURTS SO BADLY

TATAM

TATAM

mashima-senpai you must be pretty popular. aren't you ?

...

HEH ...

I bet you get confessed to all the t*me~

oh. come on! you'd have to be!

HMM ...

AM I, I WONDER ...

there's no way you'd ever have any problem f*nding A gir.friend is there?

SOMETHING LIKE THAT... RECENTLY, I'M NOT SO SURE...

TO CHOOSE ...

I'M DOING THE BEST I CAN.

WHEN A MAN CHOOSES A WOMAN... WHAT IS HE THINKING, I WONDER...

I...

PSHHHH

YOU HAVE A LOT OF CHOICES, RIGHT ?

HANANO -SAN IS CUTE, SO ...

NEXT STOP ..

BUBAI GAWARA STATION ..

SEE YOU LATER.

WHEN YOU SAY IT LIKE THAT... I HAVE THIS DREADFUL FEELING ...

WHEN HE DOES CHOOSE ...

ABSOLUTELY WON'T PICK ME.

THAT MASHIMA -SENPAI ...

BUT... EVEN SO, I WANT TO BE CHOSEN !

NO CHANCE ...

I...

Hana no iro wa

THE POEM I WRITE WON'T BE FILLED WITH REGRETS !

MEANWHILE, AS AN UNUSUAL WIND OF LOVE WAS BLOWING OUTSIDE

THE CAPTAIN, IN A FIT OF IMMATURITY, BATTLED 3-ON-1 GENDEI-STYLE AND TOOK ALL 100 CARDS

YAHAA!

Poems from this chapter:

#9 Ono no Komachi, "The vibrant flower's face has faded"

Translation

By Ono no Komachi (825-900)

The vibrant flower's
Face has faded
While I gaze in vain
As the world grows old
And the long rain falls

Original Japanese	Pronunciation
小野小町	Ono no komachi
花の色は	Hana no iro wa
うつりにけりな	Utsuri ni keri na
いたづらに	Itazura ni
我が身世にふる	Wa ga mi yo ni furu
ながめせしまに	Nagame seshima ni

Literal Notes

Flower 's color
Has faded
While [vainly/surfacely]
My body worldly-life [gets-old/falls]
[Gazing/long-rain]

This poem is layered with double-meaning. In the first line the flower's color or vibrancy also has romantic or love overtones. The third line can mean in vain or on the surface, meaning either that the author has wasted her life or modifying the next two lines so that on the surface she has grown old and lost her luster but there is still passion inside. The fourth line refers to herself and says the body and the world has grown old. The fifth line can be read either as gazing or as an abbreviation for long rain. If you take the long rain meaning, it would modify "old" from the fourth line to mean "falling" as in "falling rain."

It has been translated in different ways, some with a natural interpretation of the flower fading, some with an old woman thinking back on the lost beauty of her youth, and some with an old woman having lost her physical beauty but still beautiful inside.

Poems from this chapter:

#12 Monk Henjou, "I see a maiden's form"

Translation

By Monk Henjou (816-890)

Heavenly wind,
The cloud's commute,
Stop your blowing, please—
I see a maiden's form
And want to stay awhile.

Original Japanese	Pronunciation
僧正遍昭	Soujou Henjou
天つ風	Ama tsu kaze
雲のかよひ路	Kumo no kayoiji
吹きとぢよ	Fuki toji yo
乙女のすがた	Otome no sugata
しばしとどめむ	Shibashi todomen

Literal Notes

Heavenly wind
Cloud 's commute route
Blowing close please
Maiden 's appearance
For-a-short-while stay

It is said that Monk Henjou wrote this tanka after seeing young ladies dance at a festival. In the poem, he's referring to Buddhist mythological maidens living in the sky.

Poems from this chapter:

#15 Emperor Koukou, "While the snow sprinkles on my sleeve"

Translation

By Emperor Koukou (830-887)

I walk the fields
Of spring for you
And pluck the youthful herbs
While snow
Is sprinkling on my sleeve.

Literal Notes

You on behalf
Spring 's field to-go-out
Young [herbs/greens] [pile-up/pluck/pick-up]
My sleeve on
Snow [falls/sprinkles] while

The word for "you" in this context, 君or "kimi," is said by a man to a woman with whom he is close. Spring's fields is an archaic way of saying "calm fields of spring."

Original Japanese	Pronunciation
光孝天皇	Koukou Tennou
君がため	Kimi ga tame
春の野に出でて	Haru no no ni idete
若菜つむ	Wakana tsumu
わが衣手に	Waga koromode ni
雪はふりつつ	Yuki wa furi tsutsu

Poems from this chapter:

#51 Fujiwara no Sanekata, "Etched by fire and drawn to skin"

Translation

By Courtier Fujiwara no Sanekata (died in 999)

How little you know
Of the burning jolt I feel—
As moxa grass
That's etched by fire
And drawn to skin

Original Japanese	Pronunciation
藤原実方朝臣	Fujiwara no Sanekata Ason
かくとだに	Kaku to dani
えやはいぶきの	E-ya-wa i-buki no
さしも草	Sashi-mogusa
さしも知らじな	Sashimo shiraji na
もゆる思ひを	Moyuru omoi wo

Literal Notes

[Each/every/respectively/write/draw/scratch] [even/at-least]
[Draw/paint/get/and-how] [(Teli-could)/Mt.-Ibuki/Juniper-tree/breath(e)]
[To-point/select/shine/tinged-with/plant/as-the]
[mugwort/moxa-grass]
[To-point/select/etc.] [not-having/unaffected-by/aside/know-not (about)]
[Burning/(also+shake/rock/jolt)] [feeling+fire(if "hi" is by itself)]

Every line has a lot of wordplay, making it nearly impossible to translate. "Buki" can be read as a form of "beki," meaning "could" or "should." In that case, "i" in "i-buki" would be "to tell/say" so it would mean "how could I say/tell." But "Ibuki" is also the name of a mountain with purple-colored flowers, a Juniper tree that's fiery red/orange in autumn, and also means "to breathe" or "breath." It is a prime example of the multi-faceted wordplay possible in Japanese.

There is also the repetition of "sashimo." "Sashi-mogusa" is a type of grass that was burned into the skin for medicinal purposes. Separately, "sashi" means a variety of things, listed above.

Poems from this chapter:

#74 Minamoto no Toshiyori, "Not exactly what I was praying for..."

Translation

By Courtier Minamoto no Toshiyori (1055-1129)

Coldheartedly
She blows Hatsuse's
Mountain storm
With more ferocity—
Not exactly what I was praying for...

Original Japanese	Pronunciation
源俊頼朝臣	Minamoto no Toshiyori Ason
うかりける	Ukari keru
人をはつせの	Hito wo Hatsuse no
山おろし	Yama oroshi
はげしかれとは	Hageshikare to wa
祈らぬものを	Inoranu mono wo

Literal Notes

Carelessly/thoughtlessly/inadvertently/unkind is
Person [Hatsuse/beginning-torrents] 's/of
Mountain [wind-storm/fall/precipitate/go-down]
[Violent/fierce/tempestuous] [he/become-hoarse/wither/blast] that
Pray/wish did not [although (with strong discontent)/but/I-wish]

Hatsuse is a temple near Nara and a common place for lovers to go and pray. It is known for its storms, hence the *kanji* in its name meaning "beginning torrent." In this poem, he is comparing his lover's fury with that of the storms of Hatsuse, giving an ironic contrast between the prayers for happiness and the coldness of the fury; he loves her but she does not care for him at all.